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14 October 1947

MEMORANDUM FOR THE UNDERSECRETARY OF THE ARMY:

SUBJECT: Psychological Warfare (SANACC 304/6)

1. In SANACC 304/1 and 304/2 an ad hoc committee after a thorough study of background facts and current problems related to psychological warfare, recommended establishment of a permanent subcommittee to be charged with planning for psychological warfare in the event of war, with coordinating the implementation of psychological warfare plans in the event of an emergency, and with planning the necessary organization for the conduct of psychological warfare in time of war. This paper, SANACC 304/6, is a study of the wartime organizational problem which indicates in general the nature of the organization required and the magnitude of the task. The Subcommittee has concluded that (a) in time of war or threat of war as determined by the President a national psychological warfare organization should be established, under either the National Security Council or the reconstituted SANACC, whichever is deemed to be more appropriate; (b) The organization should be headed by a director appointed by the President who shall be empowered to provide unified direction and coordination of the national psychological warfare effort and activities and operations related thereto, and who shall be chairman of a planning and policy board which will include representation from the JCS, the Departments of State, Army and Air Force, the Central Intelligence agency and other government agencies whose participation may be necessary or desirable. The Subcommittee has been bound by its terms of reference to a consideration of the problem in time of war or threat of war as determined by the President. It is obvious from this report that considering the ^{probable} ~~problem a~~ short time for mobilization and ^{the} organization contemplated therein is not capable of attainment unless a more adequate platform for mobilization be created in time of peace. Moreover, the evidence of the past six or eight months has given rise to an increasing flood of recommendations that U.S. should engage now in an organized calculated psychological effort. It is considered, therefore, that while 304/6 provides an excellent concept for wartime organization and operation, it is of even more importance that consideration be given as a matter of urgency to the problem of determining the necessity or desirability of engaging at the present time in organized psychological action, and of determining and recommending suitable

organization for the purpose, if required.

3. The Subcommittee recommends that SANACC render a decision as to whether the proposed organization should be ~~acceptable~~ ^{responsible} to the National Security Council or to SANACC, that the remaining conclusions be approved, and that thereafter this paper be transmitted to the Secretary of Defense, State, Army, Navy and Air Force, the JCS and ^{the} ^{Central} Director of Intelligence agency for guidance and appropriate action within the respective departments.

3. MCO considers that it would be desirable to set up the proposed organization under the National Security Council but considers that until a decision has been reached as to the scope and method of operation of the National Security Council, it would be premature and at the moment unnecessary and undesirable to attempt to define the accountability of the proposed organization. MCO further considers that the Subcommittee should be directed as a matter of urgency to undertake the problem of determining what action is required now and how it should be accomplished.

MCO RECOMMENDS

Approval of the attached memorandum.

COORDINATION

AAF concurs (Col Pierce, ext 77245)

Navy Dept concurs (Capt Pohlman, ext 5210)

State Dept concurs (Mr. Block, ext 3414)

CIA concurs [] ext) /advised

1 Incl

Memo to Sec SANACC
w/incl

CVRS

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MEMORANDUM FOR THE SECRETARY, STATE--ARMY--NAVY--AIR FORCE
COORDINATING COMMITTEE:

SUBJECT: Psychological Warfare (SANACC 304/6)

It is requested that the inclosure be referred to the State-Army-Navy-Air Force Coordinating Committee for consideration as a matter of urgency.

1 Incl
Stat by Army Member
SANACC, w/incl

William H. Draper
Under Secretary of the Army .

PSYCHOLOGICAL WARFARE

Reference: 304/6

member
Memorandum by the Army ~~Member~~, SANACC

1. With the question of the functioning of the National Security Council still undetermined and with the SANACC now being reconstituted, I consider it premature and unnecessary at this time to determine the agency to whom the proposed psychological warfare agency shall be accountable. I recommend, therefore, that this remain a problem for future determination in the light of subsequent developments in the organization and operation of the National Security Council and the SANACC. Subject to this reservation I approve SANACC 304/6.

2. Limit its considerations to those within the time frame of war or threat of war as determined by the President. I am of the opinion that the changing tenor of evidence of the past few months has raised for serious consideration the problem of determining desirability or necessity of engaging in deliberate coordinated psychological effort on a national scale at the present time. I recommend, therefore, that the Subcommittee be directed to consider and make recommendations as a matter of urgency, on the problem "Should the U.S. at the present utilize coordinated psychological measures in furtherance of the attainment of its national objectives? If so, what organization should be involved and what should be its terms of reference?"

Approved For Release 2003/05/23 : CIA-RDP80R01731R003600010029-5

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REMARKS:

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